

Montgomery County Council meeting January 18th, 2022

Testimony Against the Resolution To Adopt Vaccine Passports for Montgomery County Residents

As a resident of Montgomery County, I am opposed to the vaccine passports for the following reasons:

1. Requirement puts an undue hardship on restaurants, bars, fitness centers, & other establishments included to become the enforcers of this policy. Many of these establishments have suffered greatly during this health event and don't need another policy that would keep their potential customers from entering their businesses. These establishments will also lose business as many customers will drive to other counties or neighboring Virginia to patronize their establishments.
2. According to the CDC, the Omicron variant can spread the virus to others even if they are vaccinated so there is no need for the government to require vaccines or vaccine passports of Montgomery County residents.
<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/variants/omicron-variant.html>
3. Requiring vaccine passports will have the effect of M.C. residents moving to other counties in Maryland or neighboring Virginia where this is no requirement. This will cause a loss of tax revenue to the county.
4. Most importantly it is morally wrong to exclude, divide, & punish fellow citizens because of their vaccine status. This should be a personal decision every individual makes according to their health situation and in consultation with their doctor. I find this resolution to be a form of discrimination against a large segment of our citizenry and I find it abhorrent.

A final comment, I did not see an end date to this vaccine passport requirement. If this resolution is adopted what are the guidelines/ metrics which allows the M.C. residents to end the vaccine passport/requirements